



BASED ON A UBISOFT CREATION

# ASSASSIN'S CREED VALHALLA

ISSUE  
#2

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FORGOTTEN MYTHS



# ASSASSIN'S CREED

## VALHALLA

FORGOTTEN MYTHS  
ISSUE 2

### BALDR AND LOKI

hunt for an item valuable enough to gain an audience with the Muspel court so Baldr might win the hand of their princess and save the Nine Realms from more conflict.

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THE JOURNEY OF BALDR AND LOKI--GOD OF LIGHT AND ENTANGLING TRICKSTER--WAS PERILOUS AS THEY CROSSED THE NINE REALMS.

AT TIMES, FATE PERMITTED THEM TO REKINDLE THEIR RELATIONSHIP.

...DO YOU RECALL HOLDING ME ALOFT ONCE, WHEN I WAS A CHILD?

MIDSUMMER, AS WE FORDED A RIVER.

YOUR FATHER SCOLDED ME AFTERWARD-- HE THOUGHT SO LITTLE OF ME, EVEN THEN.

AT OTHER TIMES, IN OTHER PLACES, THEIR ATTENTION WENT TO MORE PRESSING MATTERS.

THE EYE! SKEWER ITS EYE!

NOT ALL OF US ARE INVULNERABLE, YOU KNOW.

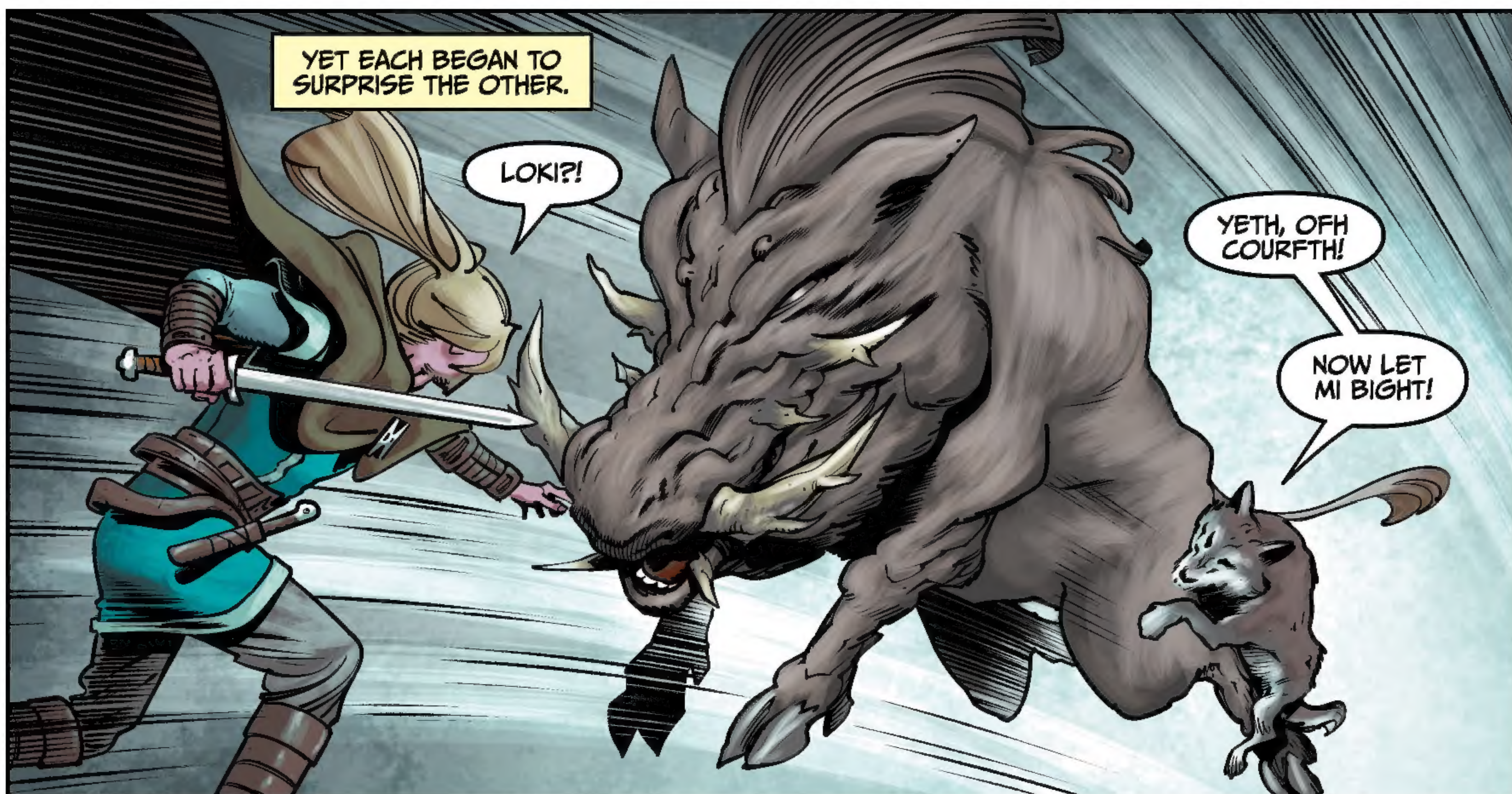
AND WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT LOKI SHARED MUCH WISDOM...

...HE DID NOT ENTIRELY FORSAKE HIS OFT-CRUEL MIRTH.

BALDR, MY DEAR FRIEND--

--HA!







...AND BALDR PROCEEDED ALONE TO MUSPELHEIM, WHERE HE SOUGHT TO WIN THE HEART OF EYSA, DAUGHTER OF THE WARLORD SURTR.

WARRIORS OF MUSPELHEIM!

GUARDIANS OF DREAD SURTR AND ALL HIS KIN!

I AM BALDR OF THE AESIR, SON OF HAVI, AND I SEEK AN AUDIENCE BEYOND THOSE OBSIDIAN WALLS.

I COME WITH THE GIFT OF EITR-- THE TERRIBLE TOXIN THAT BIRTHED YMIR, FIRST OF THE GIANTS.









...MY GUESS,  
BASED ON  
THE EVIDENCE  
PRESENTED--

(PRIMARILY  
THE REEK  
OF ASH AND  
SULFUR)

--THEY  
WOULDN'T LET  
YOU THROUGH  
THE GATE?



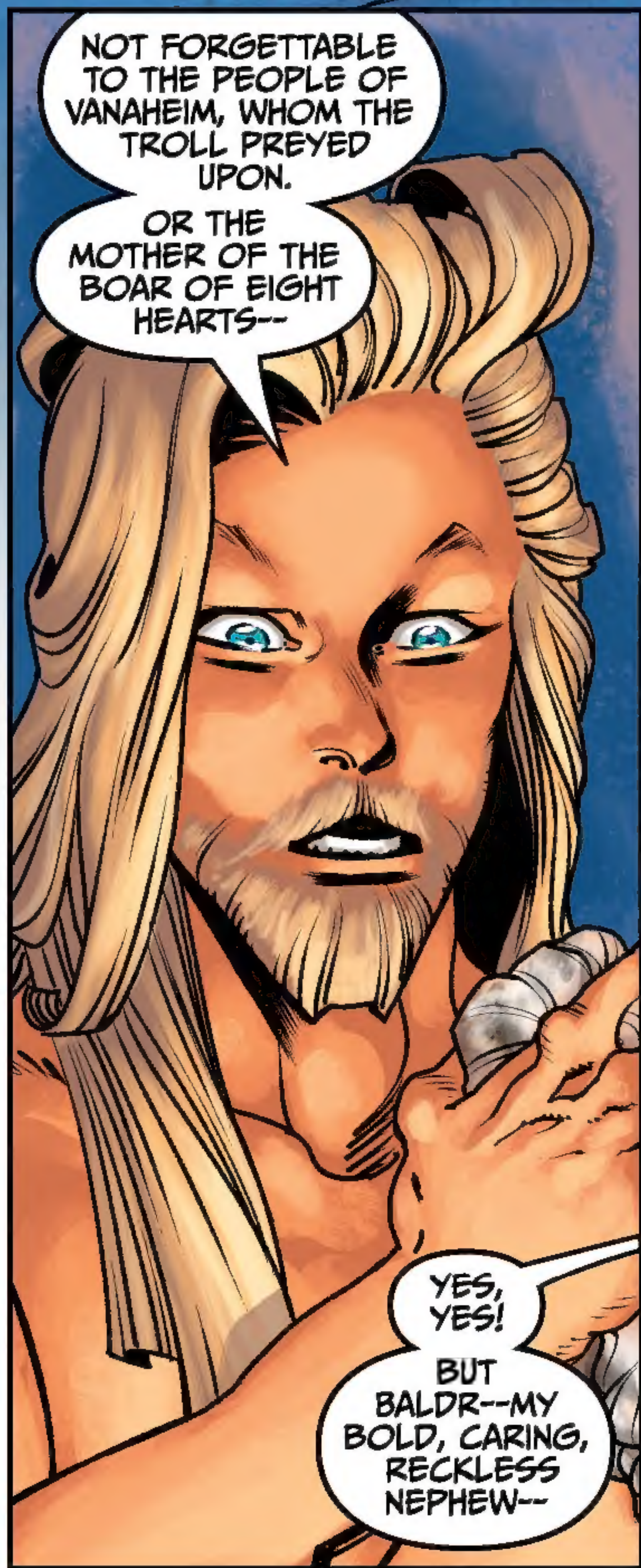
THEY  
WOULD  
NOT.

AND THE  
EITR?

LOST.

OH,  
BALDR.

SUCH A GRAND  
QUEST, MADE  
FORGETTABLE BY  
A DISMAL END.

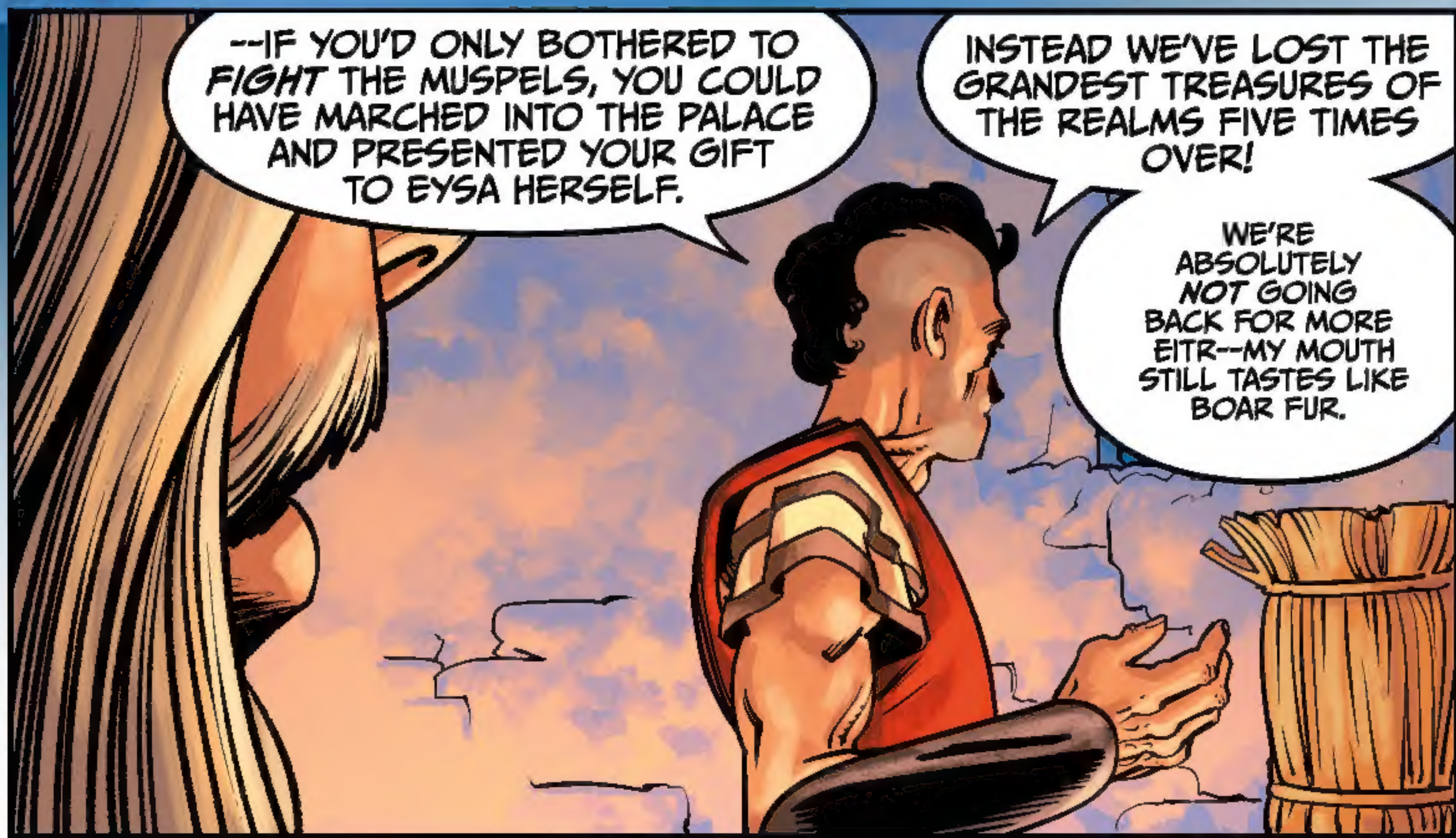


NOT FORGETTABLE  
TO THE PEOPLE OF  
VANAHEIM, WHOM THE  
TROLL PREYED  
UPON.

OR THE  
MOTHER OF THE  
BOAR OF EIGHT  
HEARTS--

YES,  
YES!

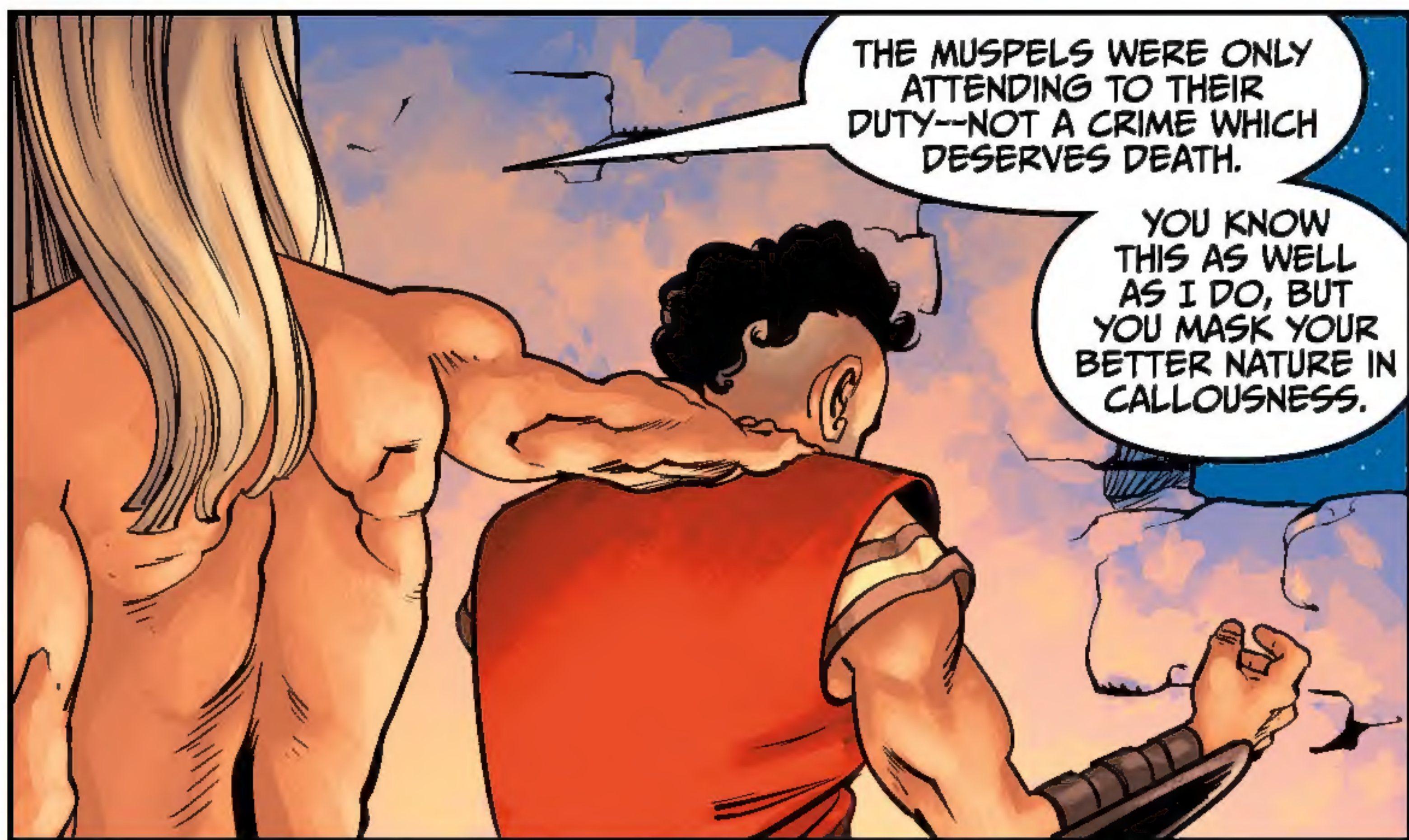
BUT  
BALDR--MY  
BOLD, CARING,  
RECKLESS  
NEPHEW--



--IF YOU'D ONLY BOTHERED TO  
FIGHT THE MUSPELS, YOU COULD  
HAVE MARCHED INTO THE PALACE  
AND PRESENTED YOUR GIFT  
TO EYSA HERSELF.

INSTEAD WE'VE LOST THE  
GRANDEST TREASURES OF  
THE REALMS FIVE TIMES  
OVER!

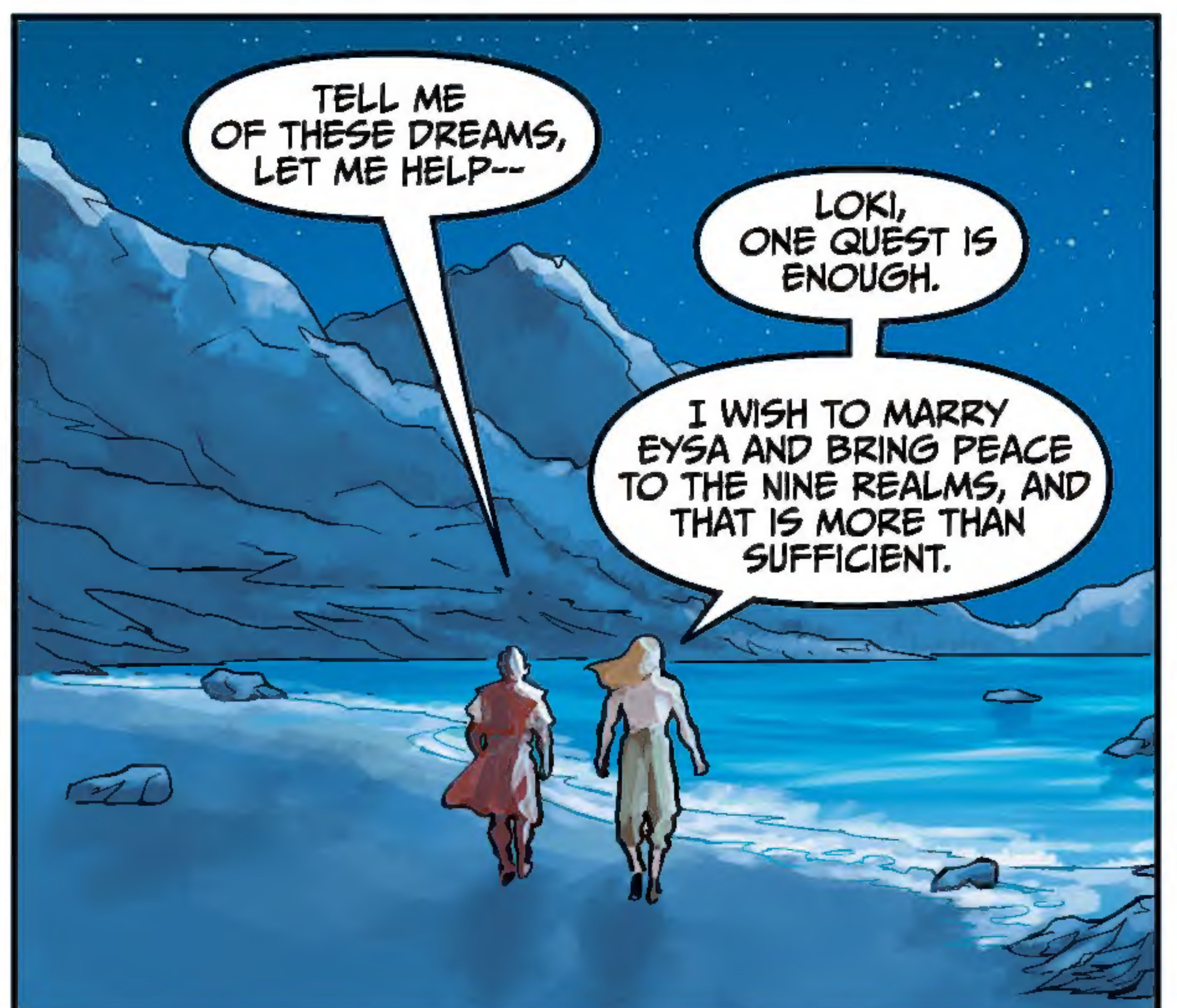
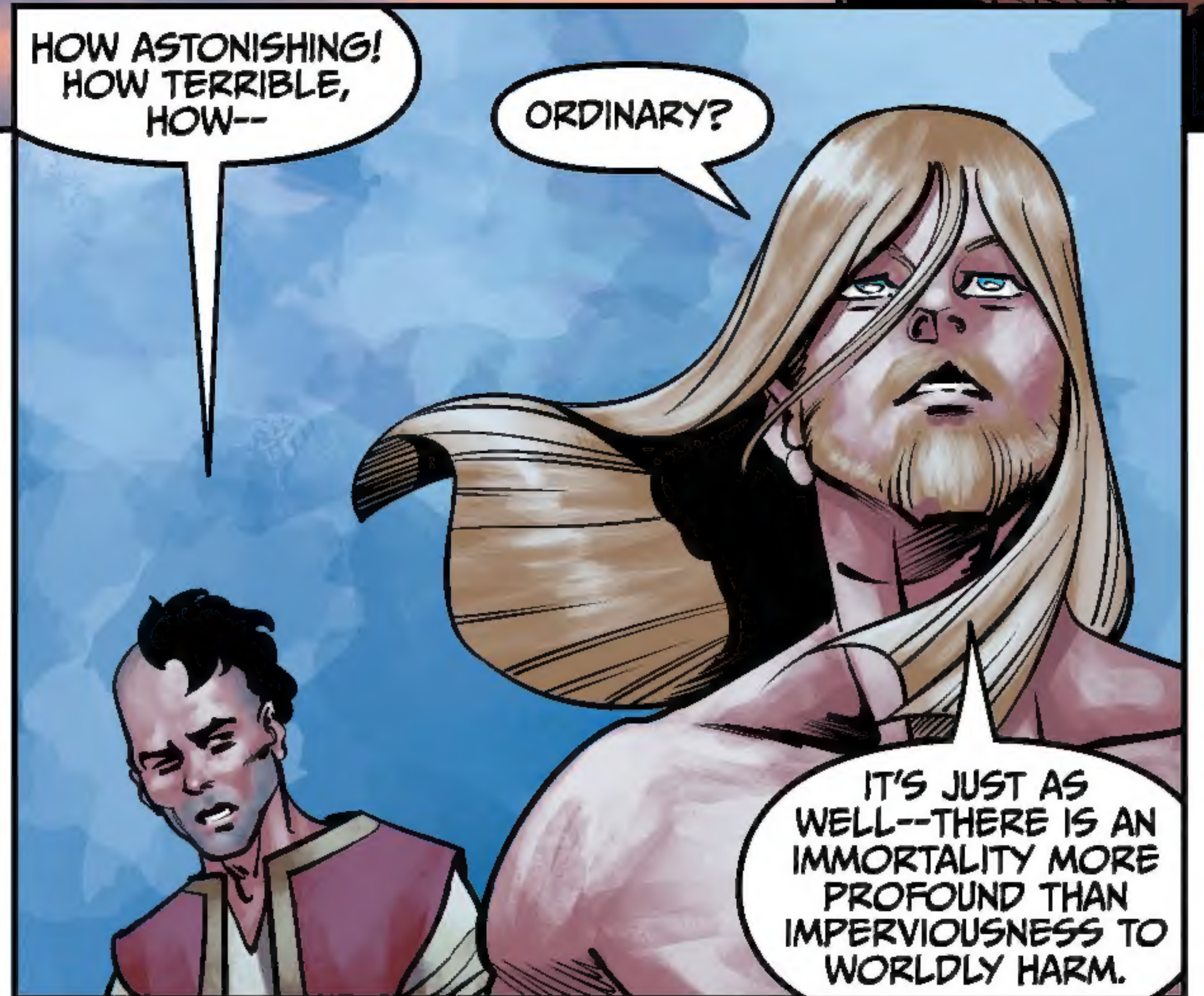
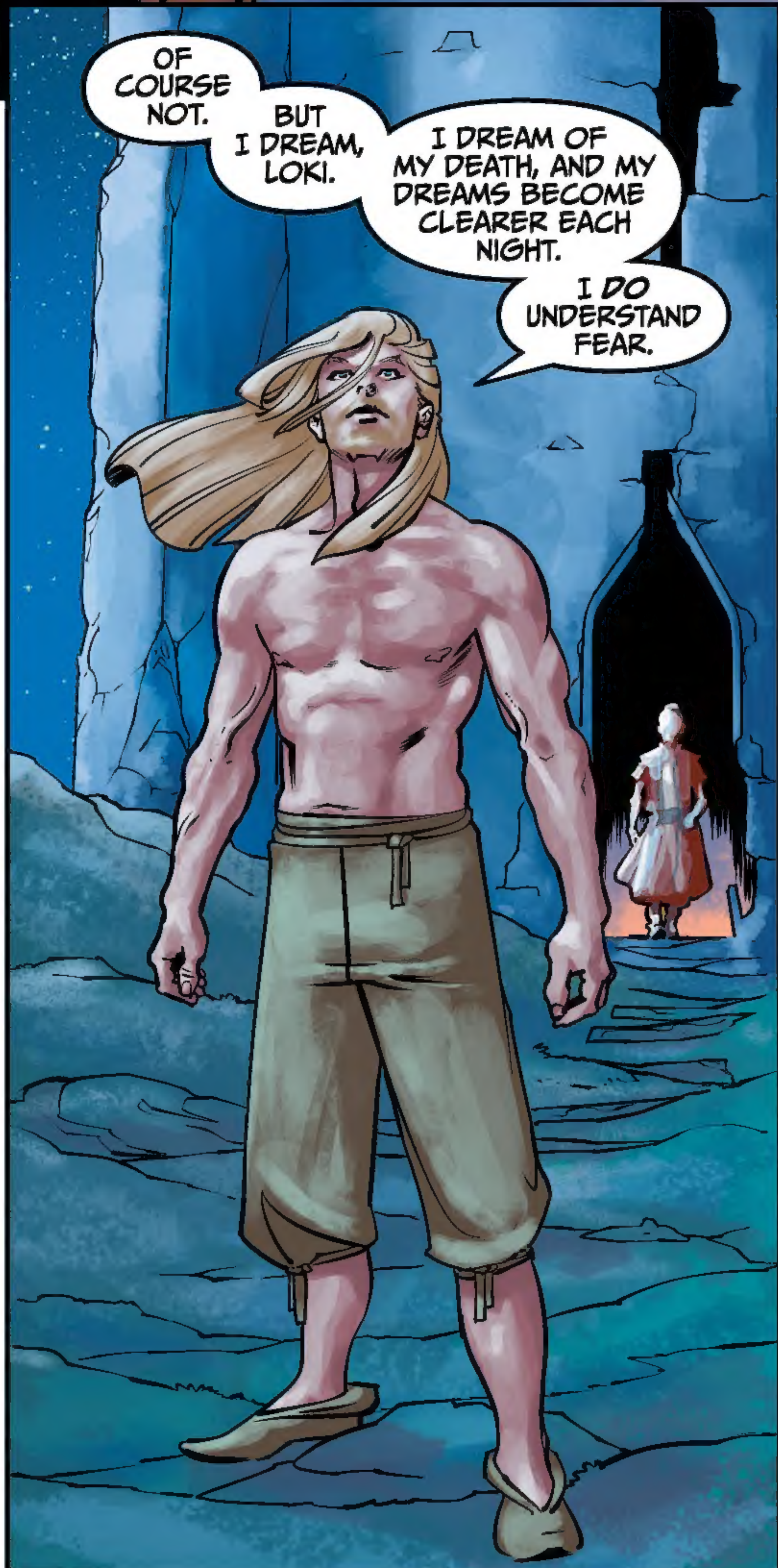
WE'RE  
ABSOLUTELY  
NOT GOING  
BACK FOR MORE  
EITR--MY MOUTH  
STILL TASTES LIKE  
BOAR FUR.



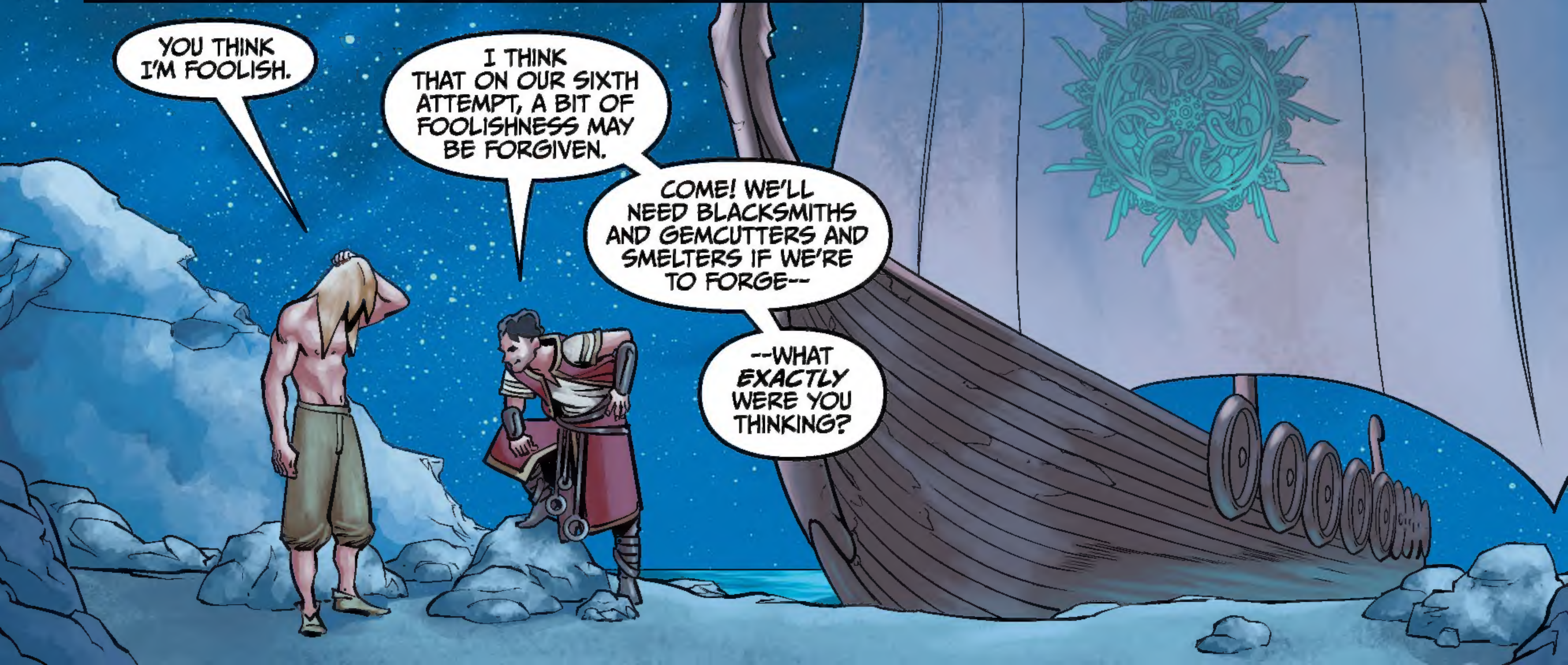
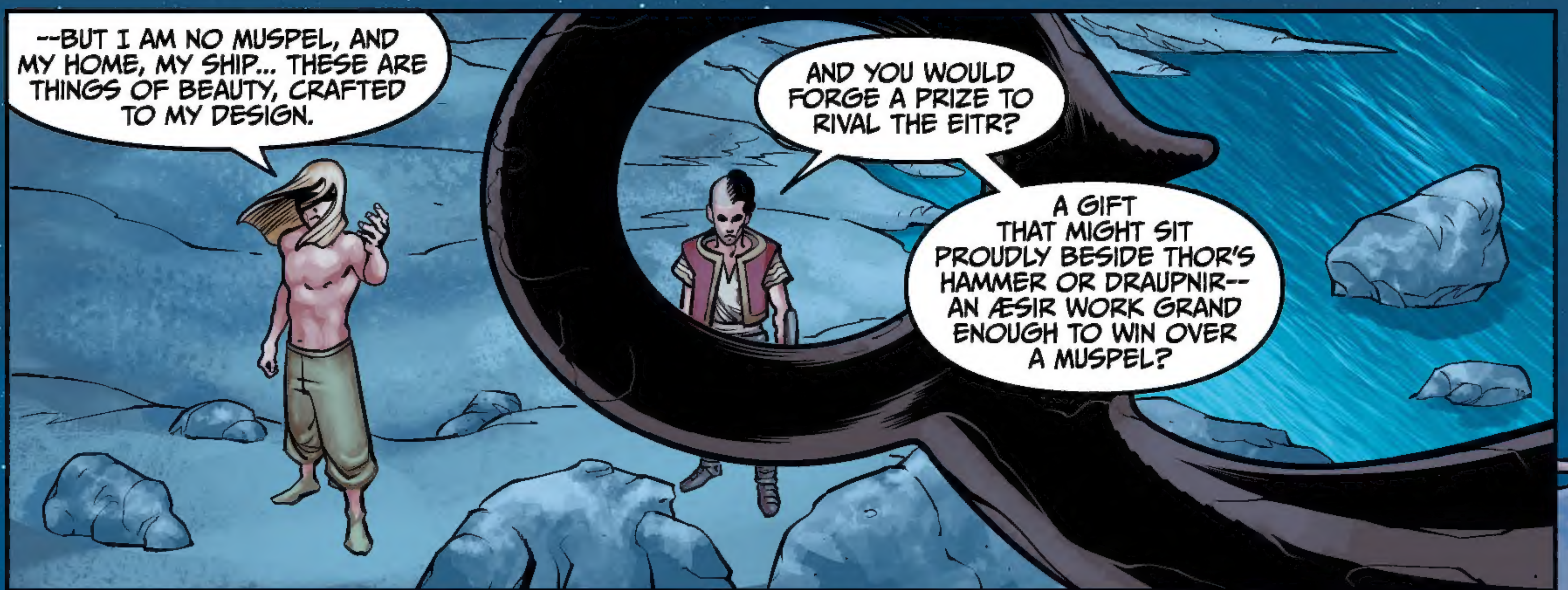
THE MUSPELS WERE ONLY  
ATTENDING TO THEIR  
DUTY--NOT A CRIME WHICH  
DESERVES DEATH.

YOU KNOW  
THIS AS WELL  
AS I DO, BUT  
YOU MASK YOUR  
BETTER NATURE IN  
CALLOUSNESS.

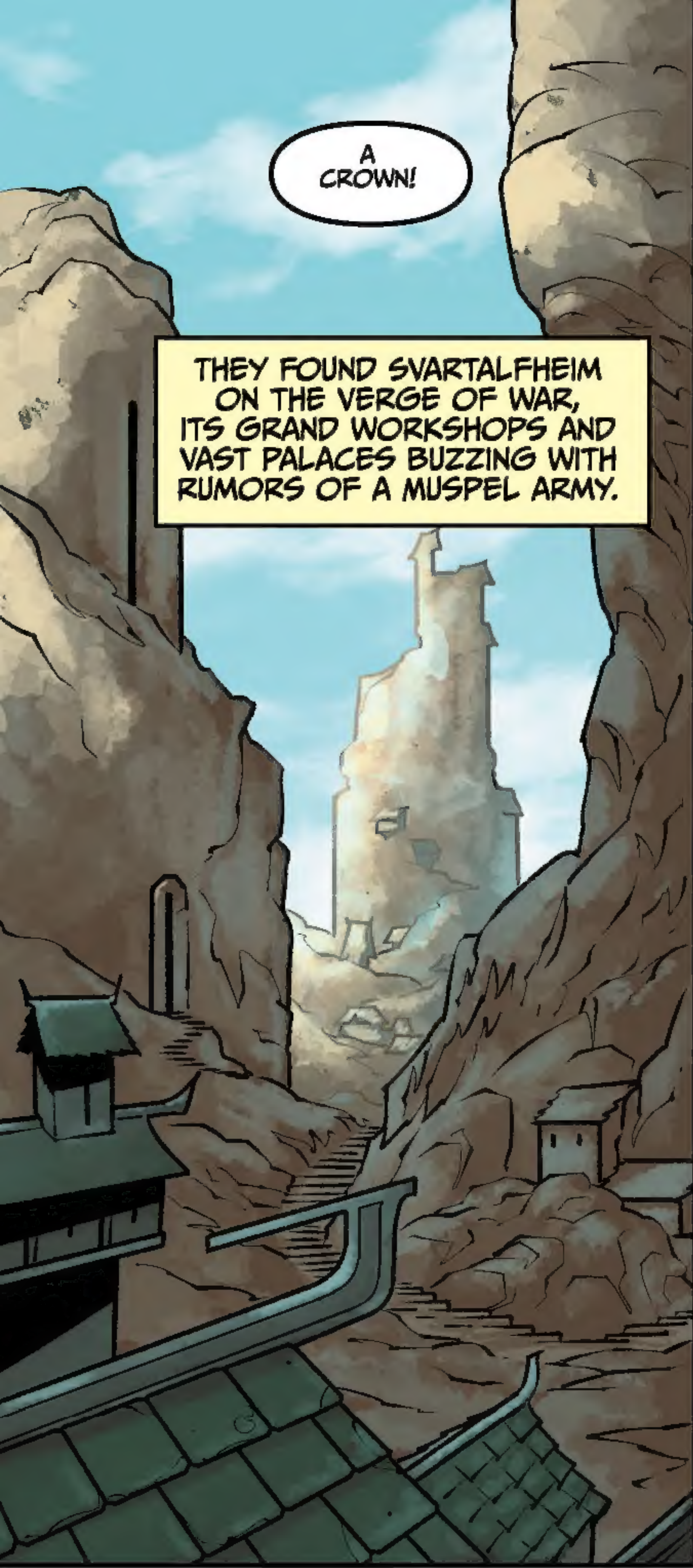












A CROWN!

THEY FOUND SVARTALFHEIM ON THE VERGE OF WAR, ITS GRAND WORKSHOPS AND VAST PALACES BUZZING WITH RUMORS OF A MUSPEL ARMY.



BALDR ENDEAVORED NOT TO STARE AT THE WEALTH SURROUNDING HIM AS LOKI SPOKE TO ELDI, FOREMAN OF HIS CLAN.

A CROWN SO BEAUTIFUL, SO EXQUISITE, THAT ITS JEWELS WILL REFRACT LIGHT TO HUMBLE THE STARS.

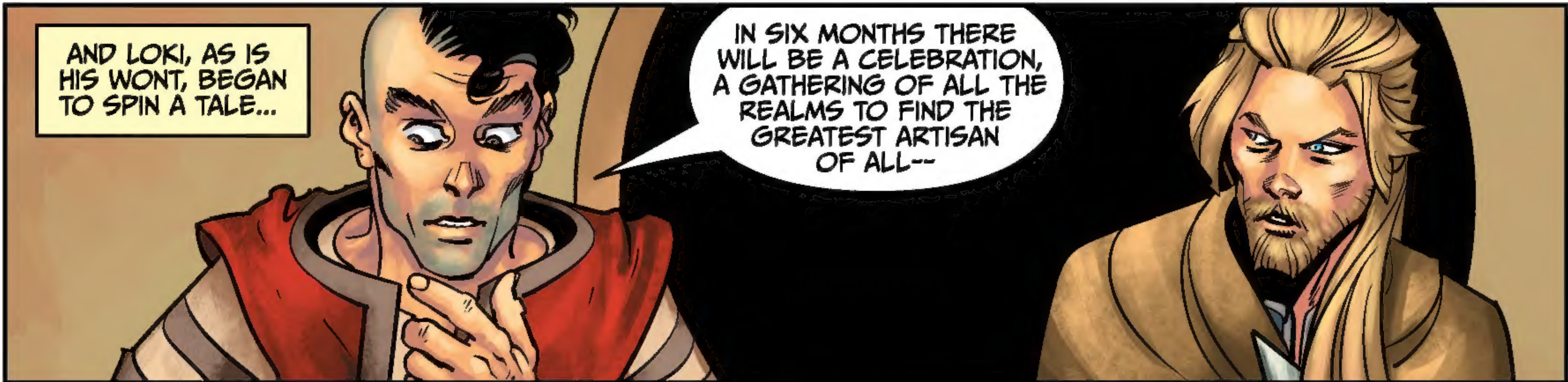
IT WILL BE THE WISDOM OF BALDR MADE MANIFEST, BOUND TO THE FINEST TREASURES THE REALMS CAN PROVIDE--

--AND SHAPED BY THE UNERRING HANDS OF DWARVES.



'TWOULD BE, WERE WE TO TAKE YOUR COMMISSION.

BUT I SEE NO GOLD ON YOU, AND TIMES ARE TROUBLED. NO TIME FOR BAUBLE-MAKING NOW!



AND LOKI, AS IS HIS WONT, BEGAN TO SPIN A TALE...

IN SIX MONTHS THERE WILL BE A CELEBRATION, A GATHERING OF ALL THE REALMS TO FIND THE GREATEST ARTISAN OF ALL--

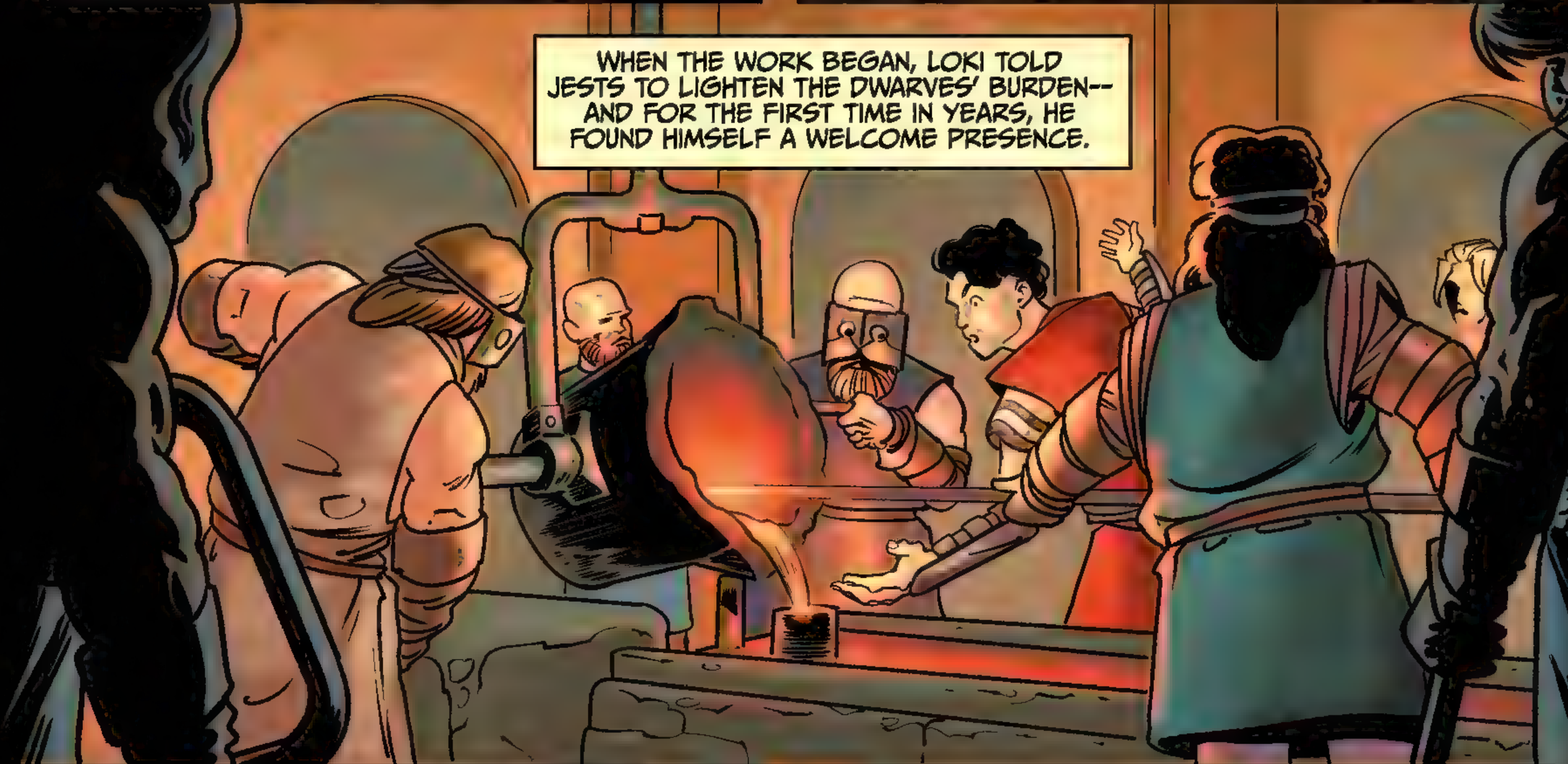
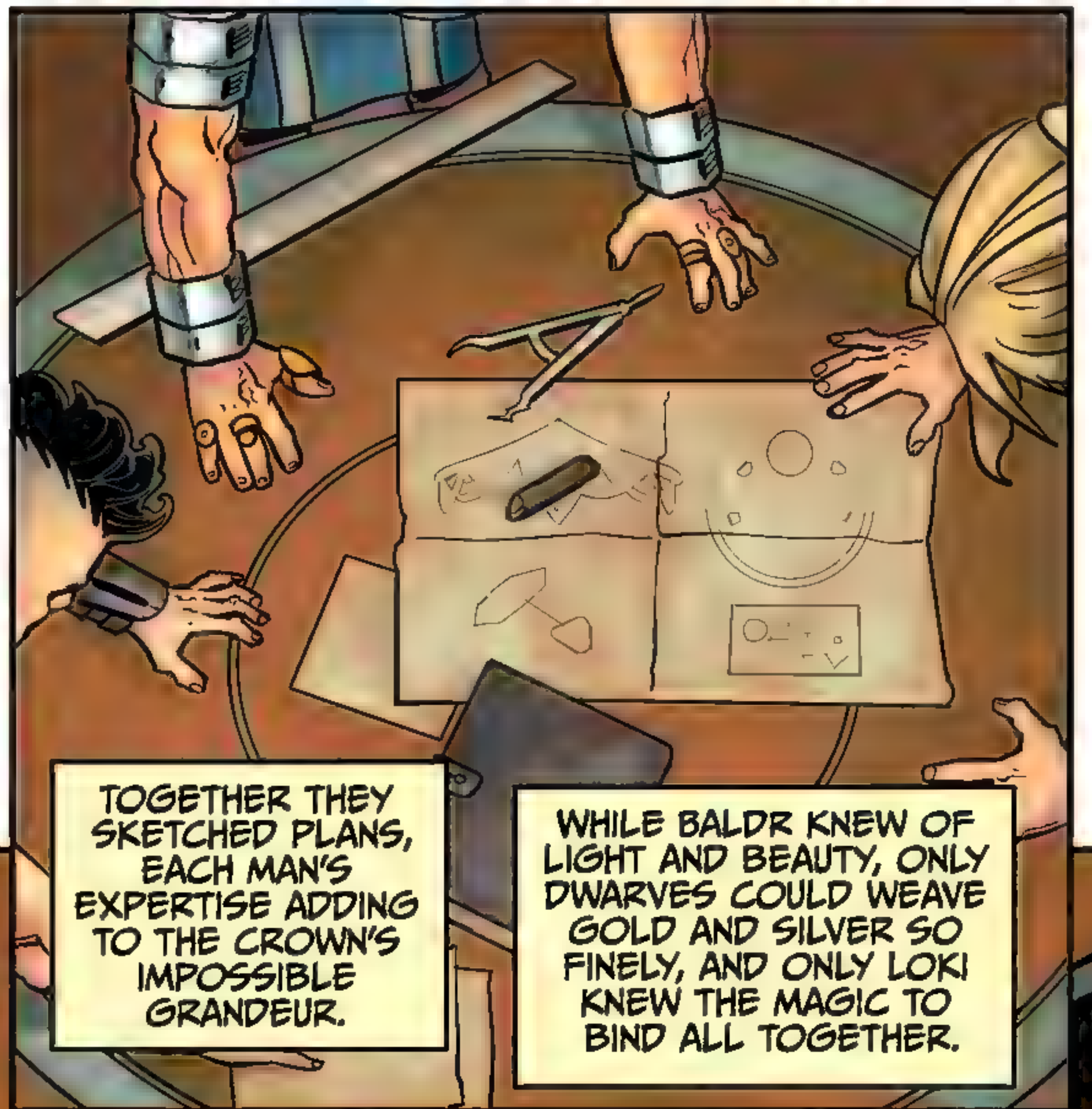
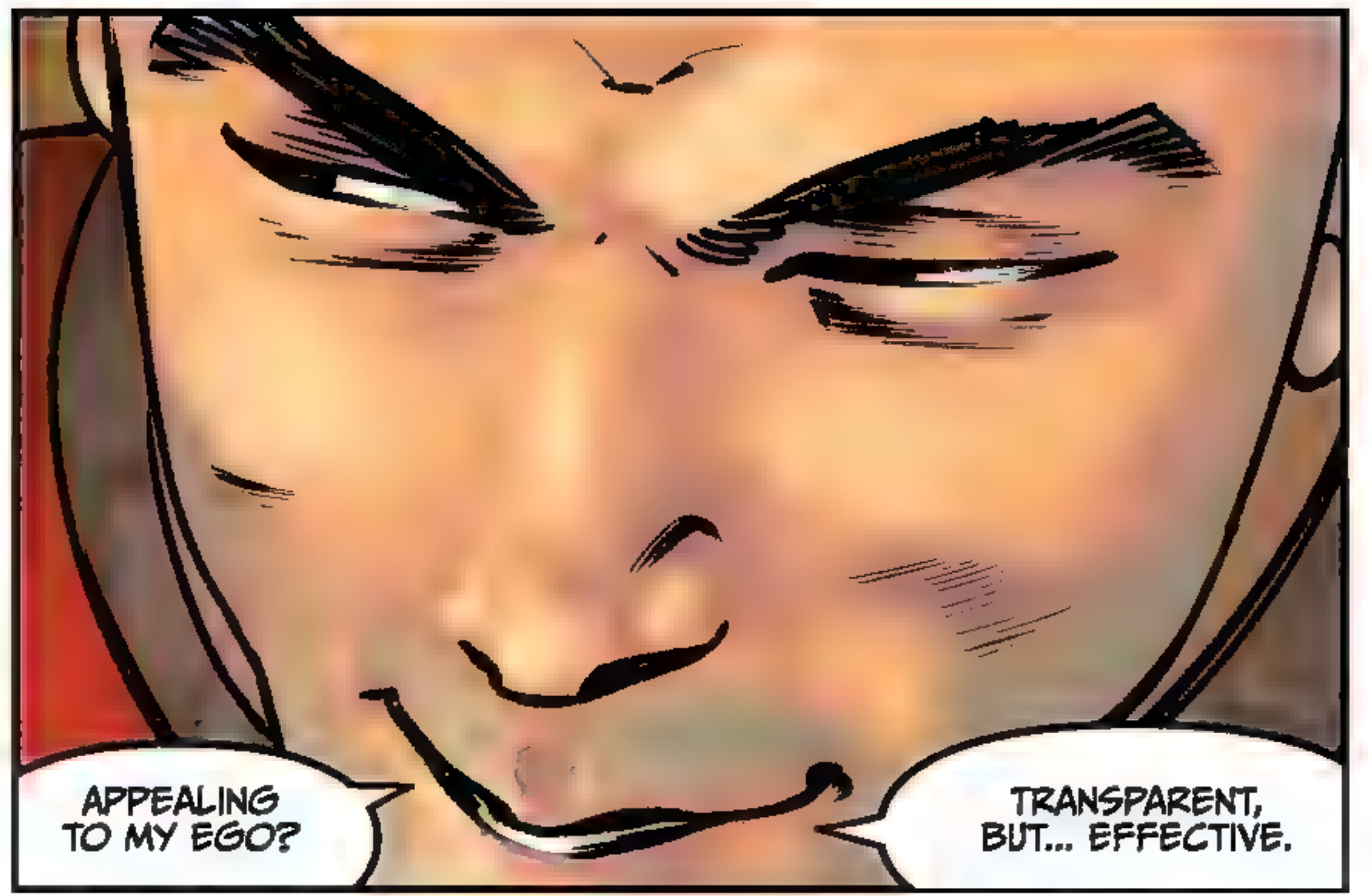
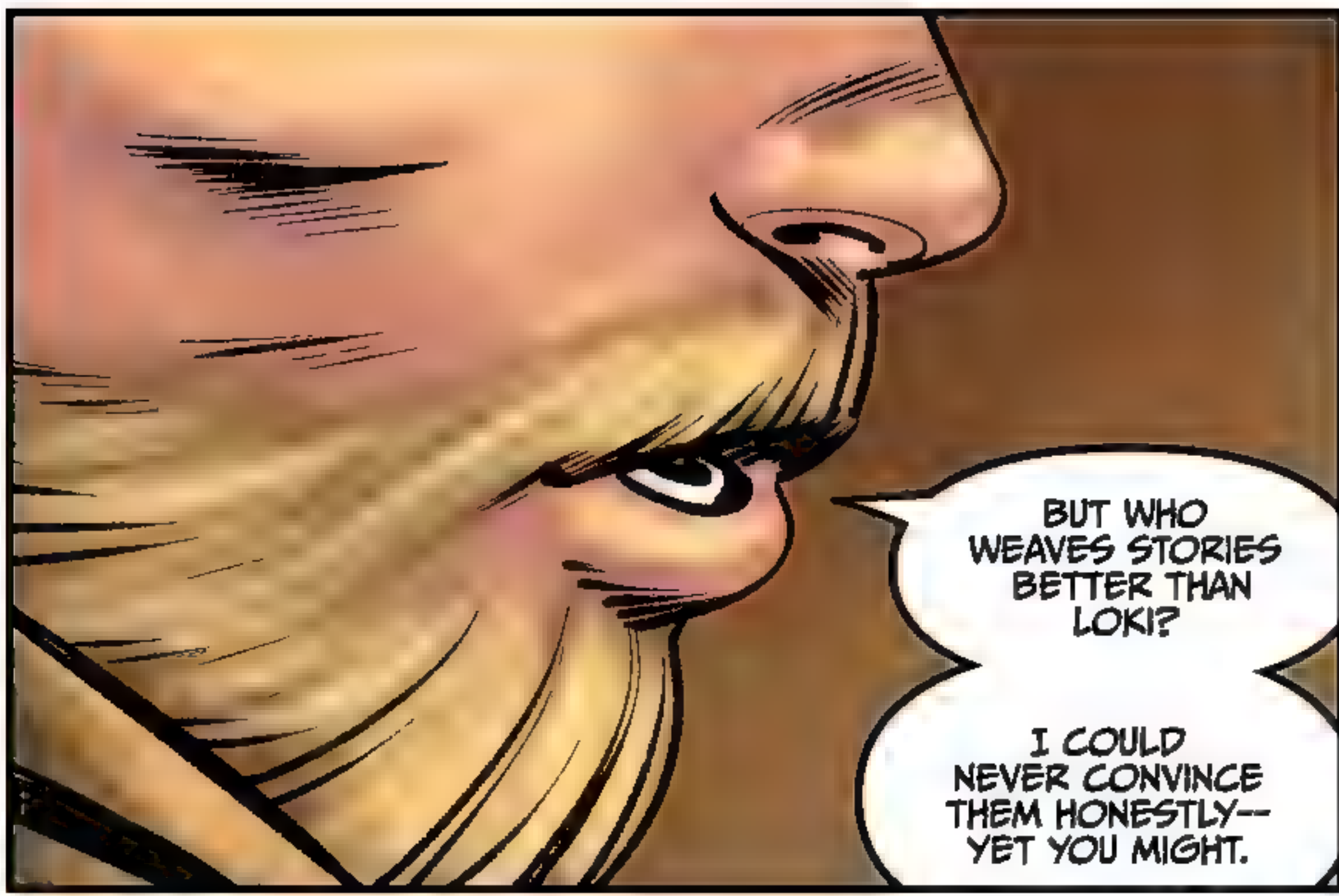


WHY NOT TRY THE TRUTH?

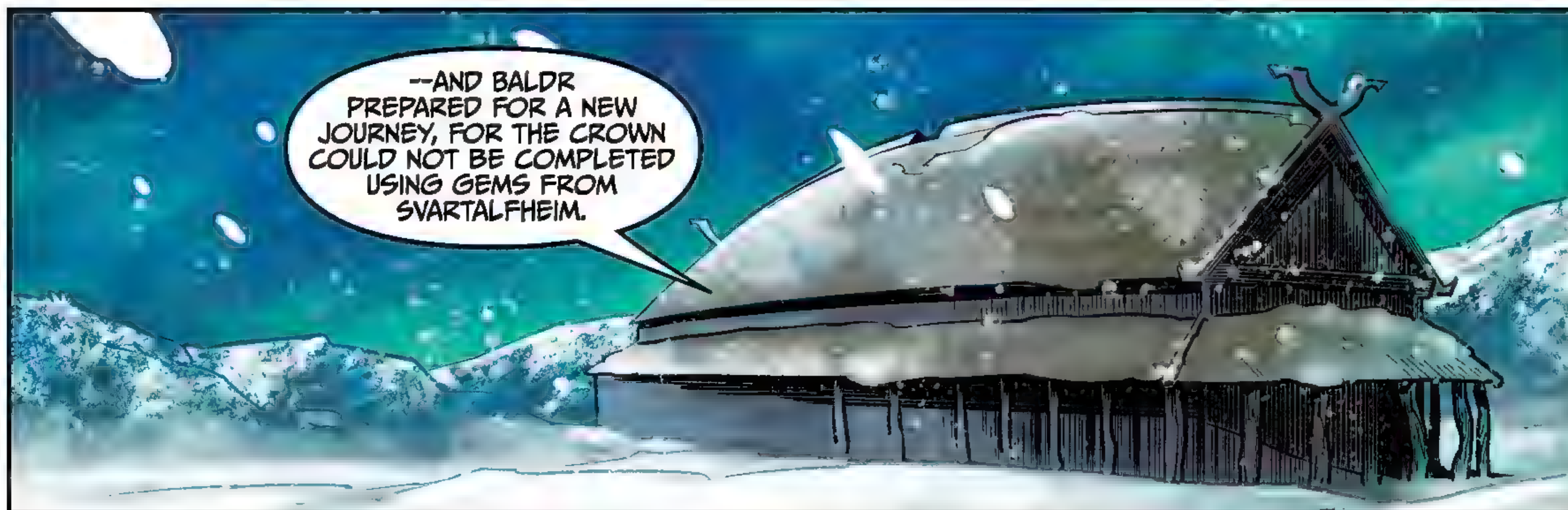
THAT BALDR THE BEAUTIFUL WANTS TO WED ONE OF THE HATED MUSPELS?

THAT SEEMS UNWISE.







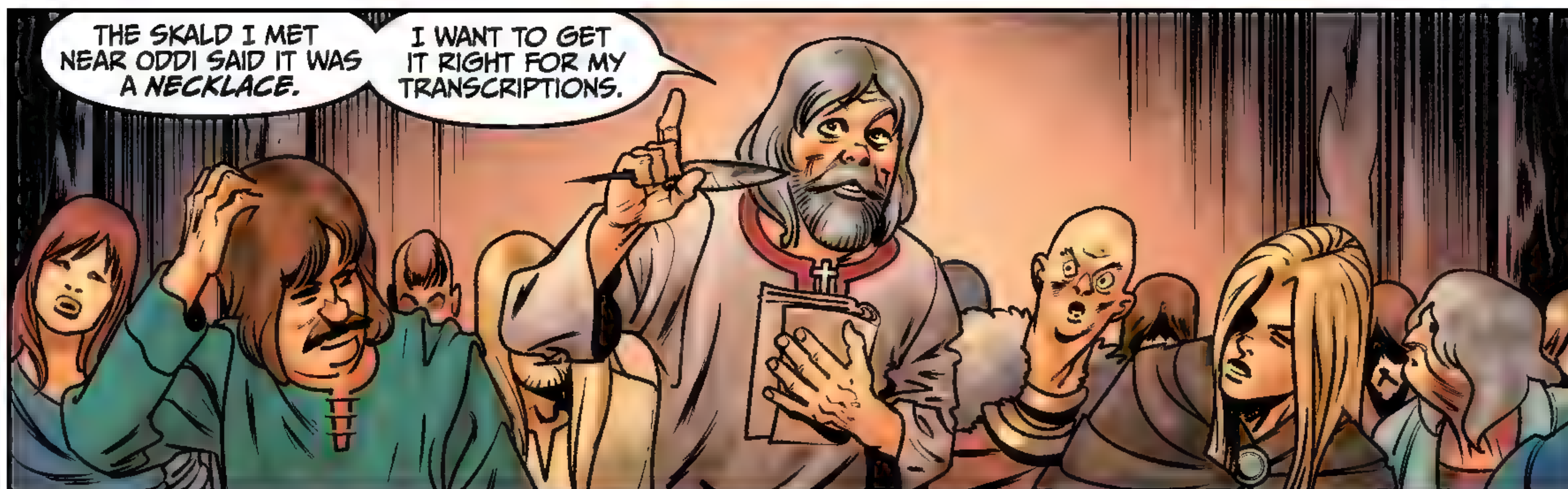


--AND BALDR  
PREPARED FOR A NEW  
JOURNEY, FOR THE CROWN  
COULD NOT BE COMPLETED  
USING GEMS FROM  
SVARTALFHEIM.



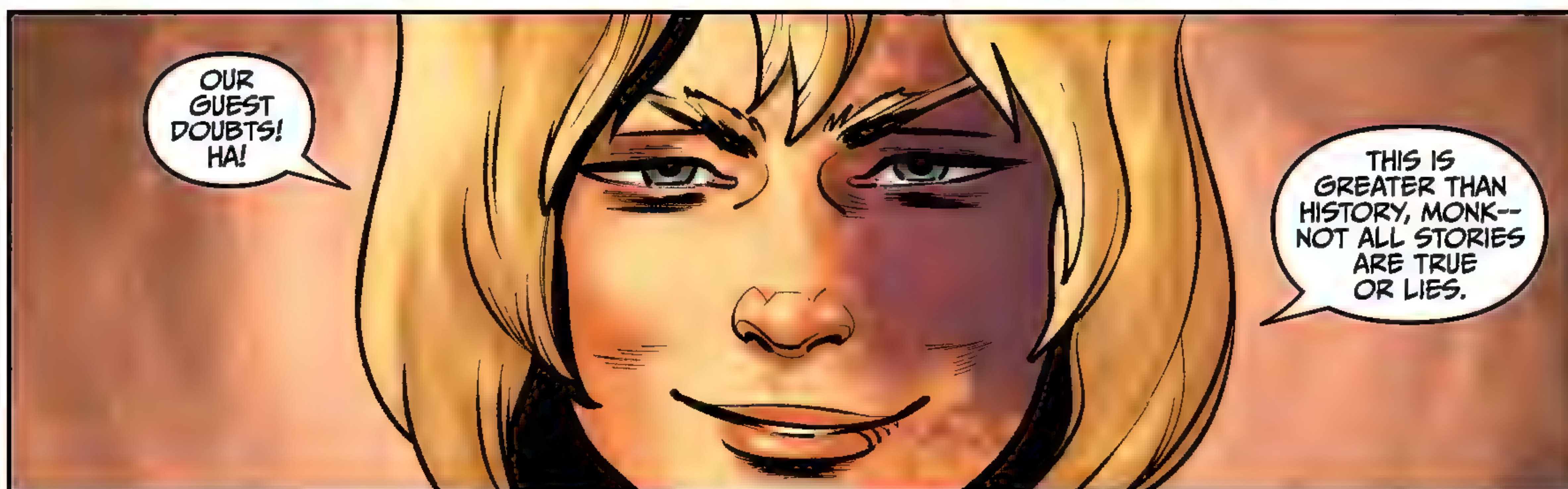
ONLY  
JOTUNHEIM--

BEG YOUR  
PARDON... YOU  
SAID IT WAS A  
CROWN, YES?



THE SKALD I MET  
NEAR ODDI SAID IT WAS  
A NECKLACE.

I WANT TO GET  
IT RIGHT FOR MY  
TRANSCRIPTIONS.



OUR  
GUEST  
DOUBTS!  
HA!

THIS IS  
GREATER THAN  
HISTORY, MONK--  
NOT ALL STORIES  
ARE TRUE  
OR LIES.



I LEARNED  
THAT LONG AGO,  
FROM A BETTER  
STORYTELLER  
THAN ME.

NOW LISTEN  
WELL...



JOTUNHEIM, REALM OF THE FROST GIANTS, WAS A HARSH LAND--BUT LOKI KNEW IT WELL.

FOR SIX DAYS, HE GUIDED BALDR THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS AS THEY SOUGHT THEIR TREASURE, EVADING THE RESIDENTS OF THAT TERRIBLE PLACE.

STAY IN THE SHADOWS AND OUT OF SUNLIGHT, NO MATTER HOW TEMPTING THE WARMTH.

JOTUN EYES ARE KEEN, AND THERE ARE MANY ABOUT.

AREN'T YOU COLD?

DON'T MISTAKE ME FOR BLOOD KIN, BALDR--MY FATHER WAS BATHING IN BLIZZARDS WHILE YOURS LOUNGED IN SUMMER FIELDS.

STILL... THIS IS COLD EVEN FOR JOTUNHEIM.

PERHAPS THE FIMBULVETR COMES--THE WINTER THAT PRECEDES RAGNAROK.

PERHAPS THE JOTNAR WILL JOIN THE MUSPELS' WAR, AND ALL THE REALMS WILL TREMBLE.

COME!  
WE SHALL FIND SHELTER!



THEY REACHED THE CAVE AT SUNSET, AND WHILE BALDR STRUGGLED TO WARM HIMSELF LOKI IGNITED THE GRANITE WITH STRANGE ARTS.

SPEARS WOULD FAIL TO SCRATCH HIS SKIN, BUT BALDR FELT THE CHILL IN HIS VEINS. INVULNERABILITY WOULD NOT DENY HIM SENSATION, NOR FREE HIM FROM A TOMB OF ICE.

I CAN DO NO MORE.

SHOW ME THE DAY'S COLLECTION?

MORE THAN ENOUGH, NOW.

NO DIAMOND COULD BE HALF AS DAZZLING.

ICE SO COLD EVEN THE BURNING SKIN OF A MUSPEL WILL FAIL TO MELT IT...

CAREFUL.

THEY MAY NOT HARM EYSA BUT THEY'LL FREEZE YOUR FLESH.

PERHAPS I SHOULD HAVE COME ALONE...

I COULDN'T LET YOU RISK THE DANGER ON MY BEHALF.

NOT WHEN I'M INVULNERABLE AND YOU--

--CAN ENDURE THE COLD BETTER THAN ANY PURE-BLOODED ÆSIR?

PERHAPS I'M NOT SO WISE.



LOKI TALKED AS NIGHT DEEPENED, WHILE BALDR SHIVERED AND FEIGNED ATTENTION TO STORIES OF FLIES AND PUPPETS AND WILD MARES.

AS THE GOD OF LIGHT TURNED PALE, LOKI SAT CLOSE TO HIM TO SHARE WHAT LITTLE WARMTH HE POSSESSED.



ANY BETTER?

WOULD I SEEM UNGRATEFUL IF I SAID I'M TOO NUMB TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

QUITE--BUT NEVER LET IT BE SAID LOKI IS UNFORGIVING.

NOR HUMORLESS.



HAS MIDNIGHT ARRIVED?

NOT YET.

THEN IT WILL GET COLDER, AND WE SHOULD SPEAK OF WHAT'S TO BE DONE SHOULD I BE FROZEN ALIVE AND TRAPPED IN ICE FOREVER.



MY DEAR NEPHEW, SURELY YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR--

LOKI, LOOK AT ME.



ÆSIR ARE STORYTELLERS AS MUCH AS WARRIORS--WE BRAG OF OUR EXPLOITS, PASS TALES DOWN GENERATIONS, BATTLE WITH INSULTS AS OFTEN AS SWORDS.

YOU ARE AN EXCELLENT LIAR, AND LIES AND STORIES ARE DEAREST OF KIN.

I ADMIRE YOU SO, AND THIS IS WHY I ASK FOR YOUR PROMISE--







--IF I FAIL TO  
FIND EYSA, TELL  
HER OF MY  
DEEDS.

TELL HER--  
TELL MY FATHER, TELL  
ALL THE **WORLD**--WHAT  
WE HAVE ENDURED,  
AND WHAT I HAVE  
LONGED FOR.

I WILL.  
I PROMISE  
I WILL--



--BUT I ASK  
ONE THING IN  
RETURN.

YOUR DREAMS,  
DEAR BALDR--  
YOU FEAR DOOM AND  
DEATH, AND I WOULD  
AID YOU.

WHAT  
CAUSES YOU SUCH  
GLOOM?

WHAT COULD  
THE INVULNERABLE  
BALDR POSSIBLY  
FEAR?



ONLY THE  
MISTLE-BERRY.

A SIMPLE  
MISTLE-BERRY  
CARRIES POISON  
ENOUGH TO SEAL  
MY FATE.



I SHALL  
KEEP YOUR  
SECRET. REST  
NOW.



BALDR SLEPT.

MOTHER?

WHEN HE WOKE,  
HE COULD ONCE  
AGAIN FEEL HIS  
LIMBS.



FRIGG IS  
NOT HERE.

BUT I AM  
BRIDE OF HAVI,  
AND YOU MAY CALL  
ME MOTHER IF  
YOU WISH.

I DREAMED OF  
HER, AS SHE WENT ABOUT  
THE WORLD, EXTRACTING A  
PROMISE FROM EVERY PLANT  
AND BEAST TO DO HER SON  
NO HARM. ALL EXCEPT  
THE LITTLEST--

HOW DID  
I GET TO  
ASGARD?

AN ELDERLY  
DWARF BROUGHT  
YOU, CALLING  
HIMSELF FRIEND.

YOU CLUTCHED  
THESE ICY JEWELS  
IN FROSTBITTEN  
HANDS.

WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING,  
BALDR?

CAN YOU TELL ME  
THE NAME OF  
THE DWARF WHO  
BROUGHT YOU?

THEY ARE  
BEAUTIFUL BEYOND  
COMPARE, BUT  
I WONDER WHAT  
YOU'VE SUFFERED  
TO FIND THEM.

NO, I  
THOUGHT  
NOT.

YOU RISK  
EVERYTHING TO  
TRUCK WITH LOKI,  
CHILD.





YOU KNEW?

I SUSPECTED--  
THOUGH I'M NOT SO  
FOOLISH AS TO TELL  
YOUR FATHER.  
I EXPECT HE'D  
BE TOO PETRIFIED FOR  
YOUR SAKE TO FEEL  
BETRAYED.



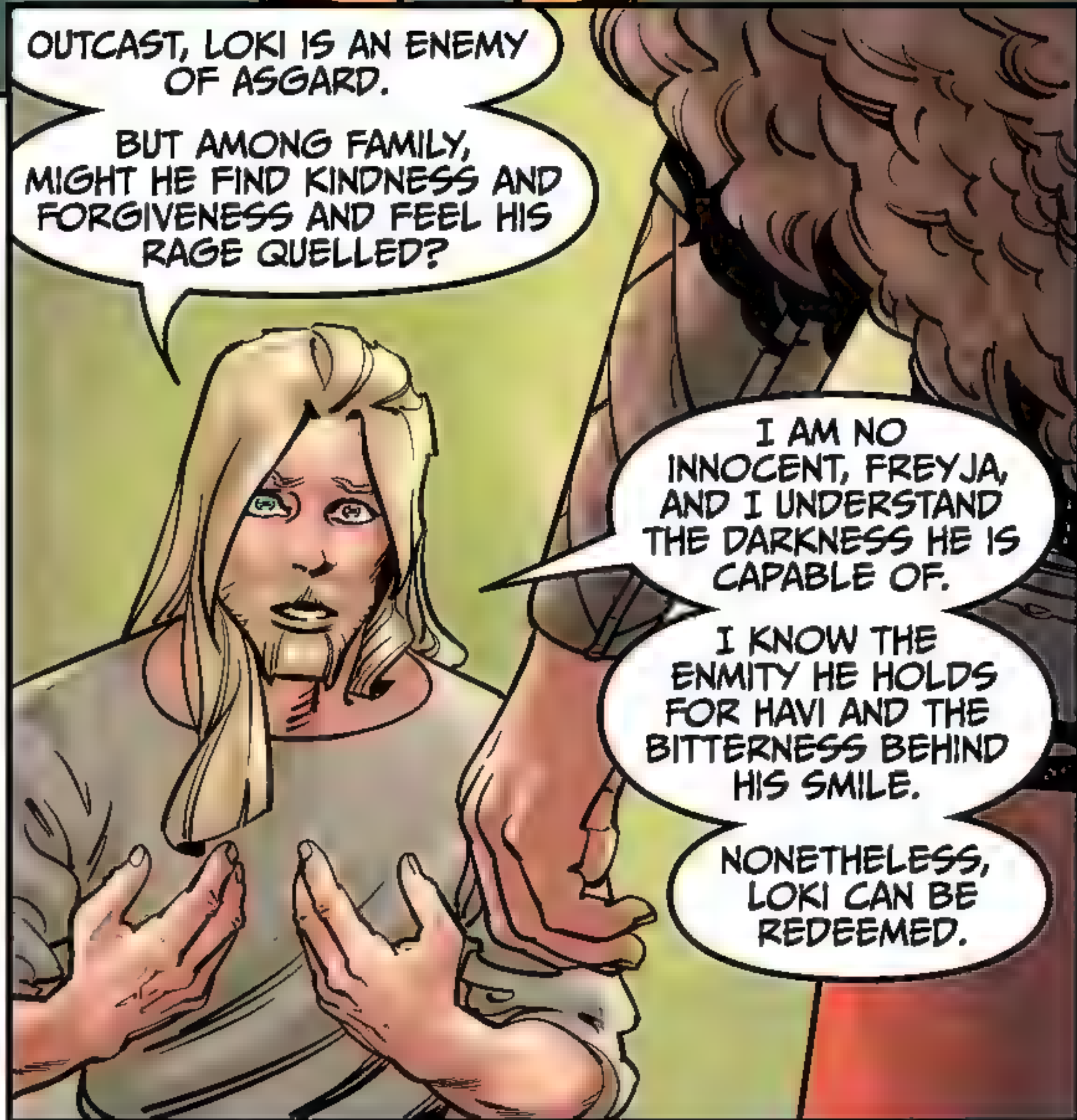
YET LOKI HAD  
VIRTUES ENOUGH  
TO WIN MY FATHER'S  
FRIENDSHIP, ONCE.

HE IS  
A FLAWED  
MAN--

LONG  
AGO.

TO  
SAY THE  
LEAST!

--BUT HE HOLDS  
MUCH LOVE FOR  
THE AESIR, DESPITE  
HIMSELF.



OUTCAST, LOKI IS AN ENEMY  
OF ASGARD.

BUT AMONG FAMILY,  
MIGHT HE FIND KINDNESS AND  
FORGIVENESS AND FEEL HIS  
RAGE QUELLED?

I AM NO  
INNOCENT, FREYJA,  
AND I UNDERSTAND  
THE DARKNESS HE IS  
CAPABLE OF.

I KNOW THE  
ENMITY HE HOLDS  
FOR HAVI AND THE  
BITTERNESS BEHIND  
HIS SMILE.

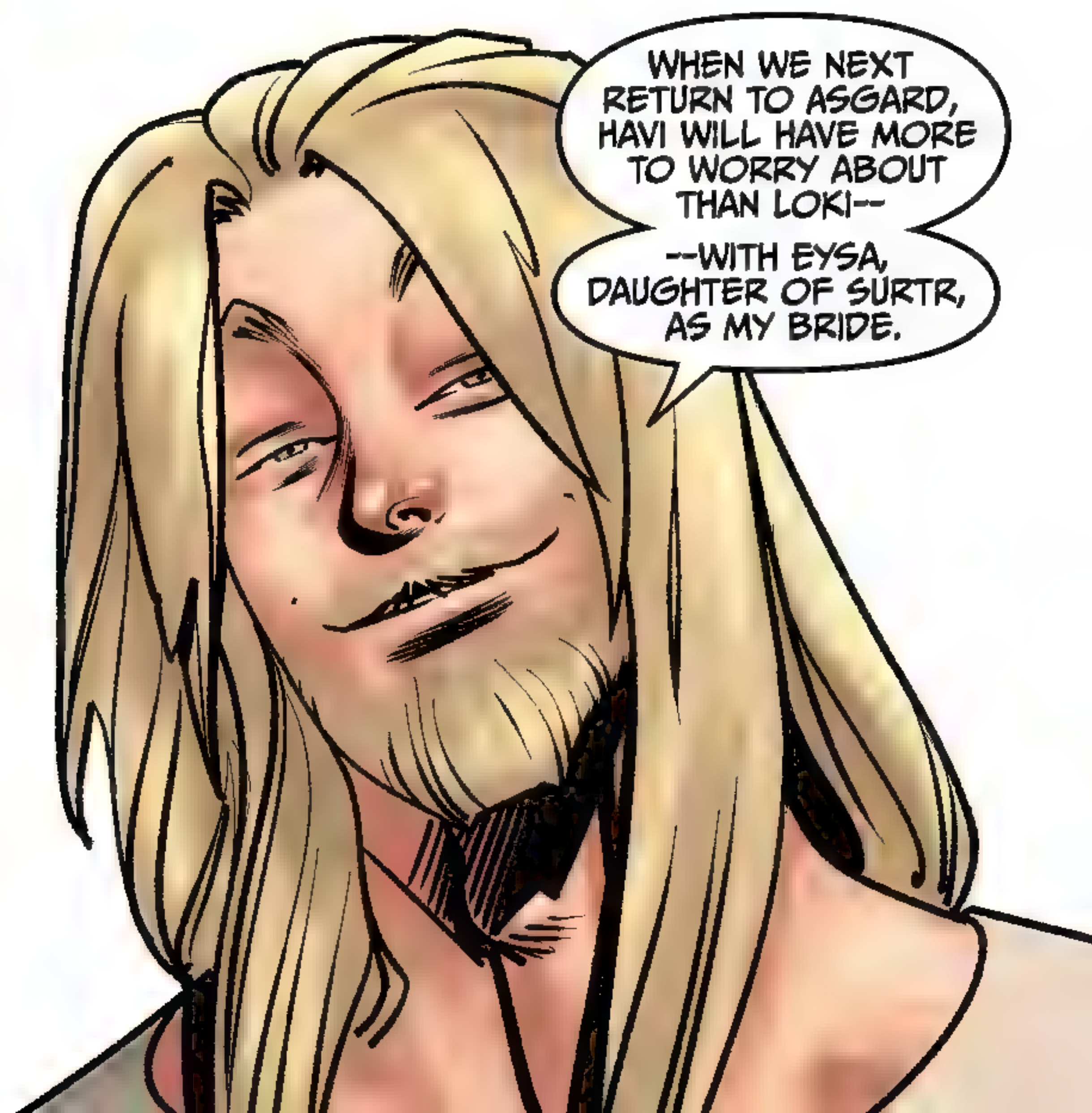
NONETHELESS,  
LOKI CAN BE  
REDEEMED.



YOU'RE AS MUCH A  
SCHEMER AS YOUR  
FATHER, IN YOUR  
WAY.

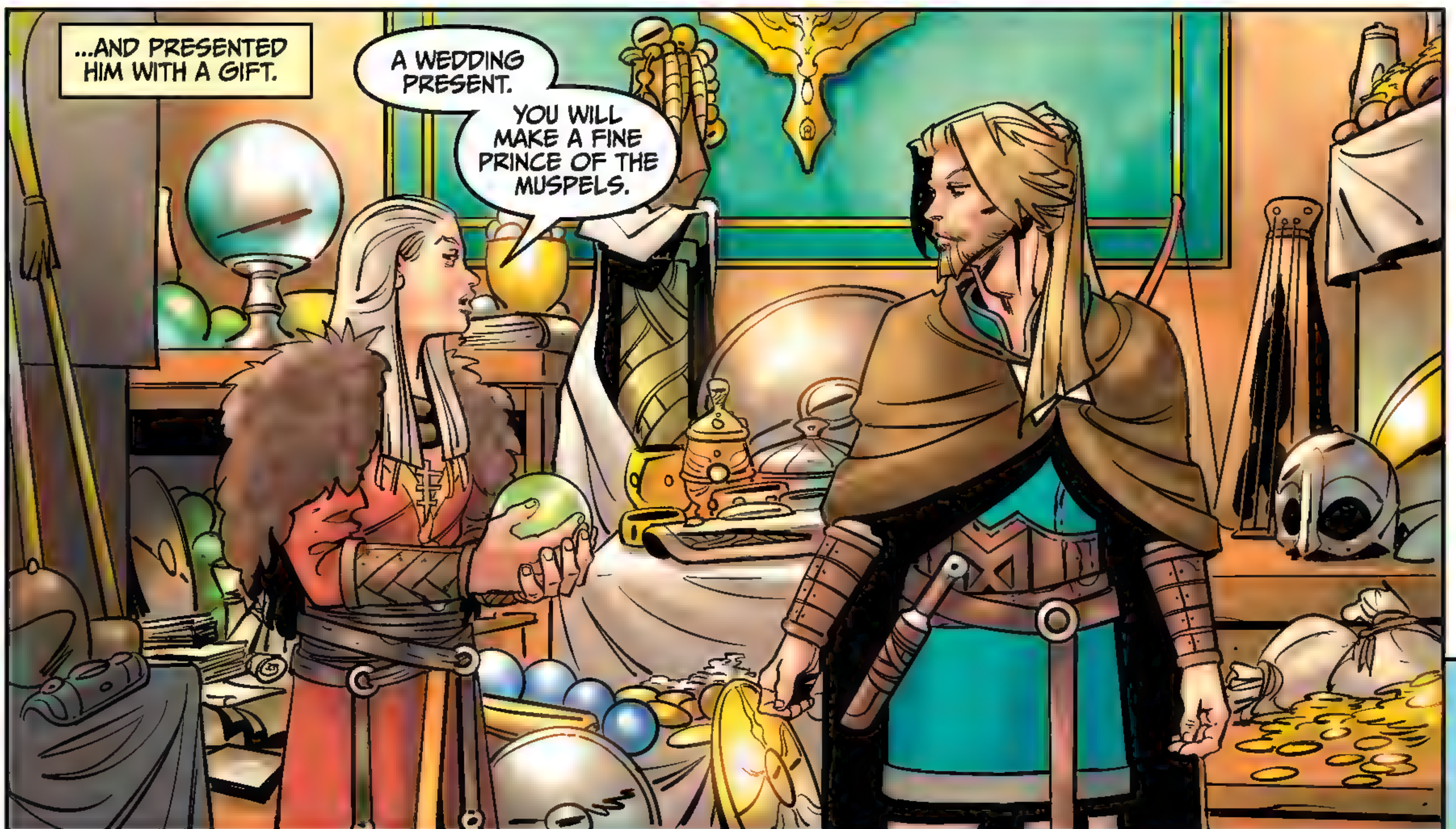
HAVE YOU  
CONSIDERED THAT  
HAVI MAY NOT WANT  
LOKI REDEEMED?

THAT SOME  
BETRAYALS RUN  
TOO DEEP?

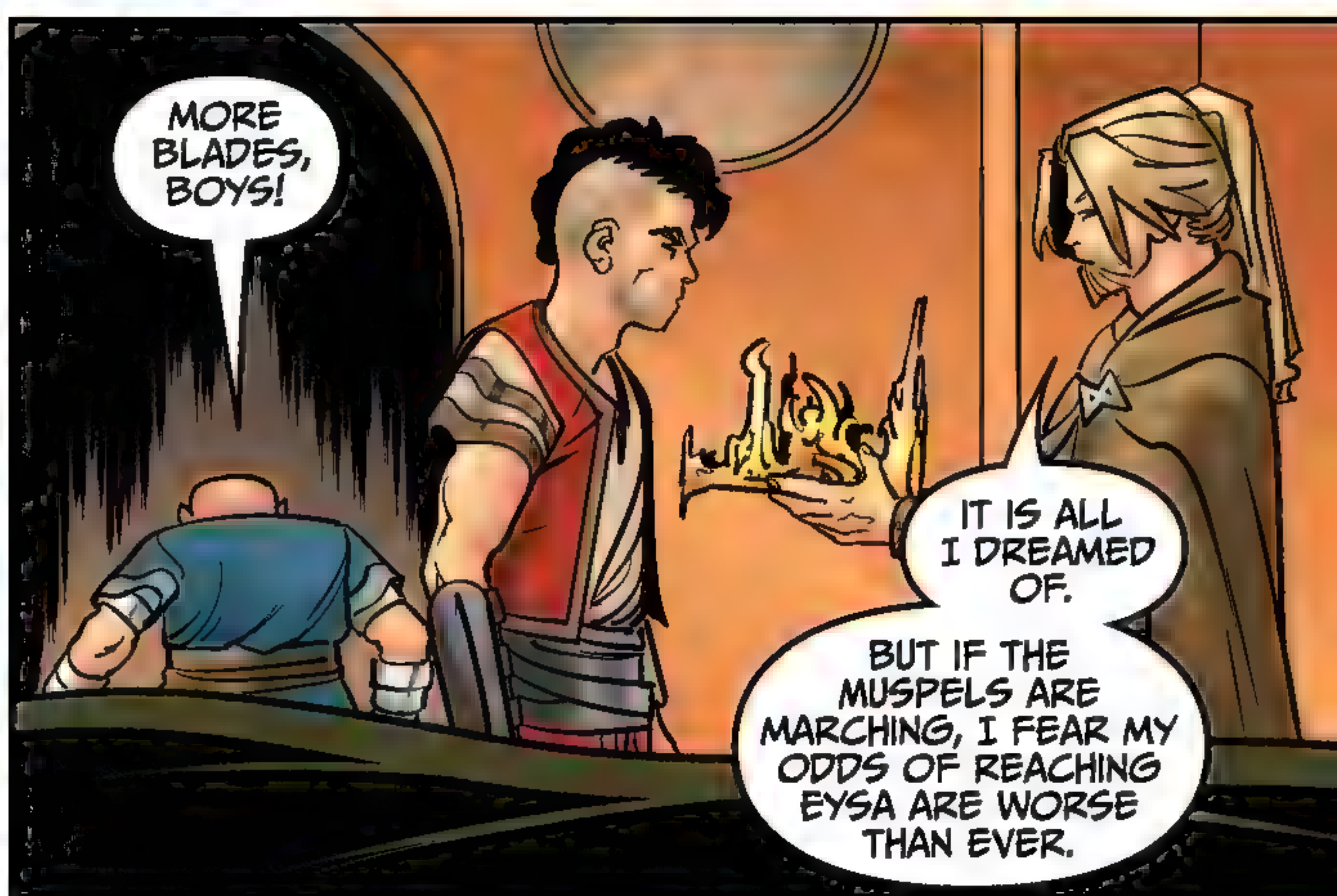
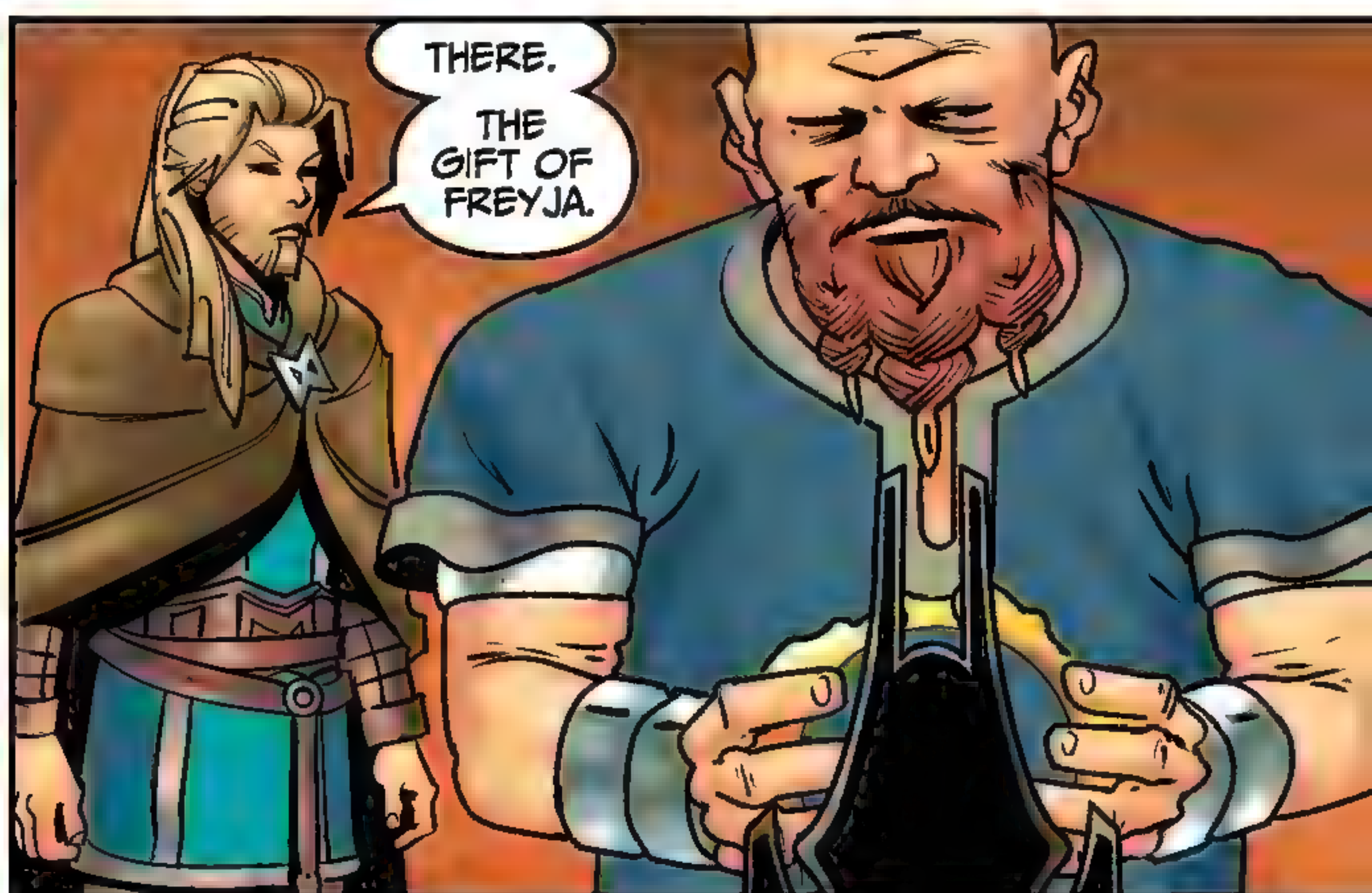


WHEN WE NEXT  
RETURN TO ASGARD,  
HAVI WILL HAVE MORE  
TO WORRY ABOUT  
THAN LOKI--  
--WITH EYSA,  
DAUGHTER OF SURTR,  
AS MY BRIDE.











"WILL YOU BE MY MESSENGER?" BALDR ASKED. "YOU HAVE SAVED ME, MENTORED ME--BUT YOU, WHO ARE FRIEND TO SHADOWS, WHO CAN GO PLACES I CANNOT--"

"I WILL ENTER THE PALACE OF SURTR AND BRING YOUR GIFT TO EYSA," LOKI SAID. "HOW COULD I DO OTHERWISE?"

"BUT I THINK YOU WILL NOT WAIT," LOKI SAID.

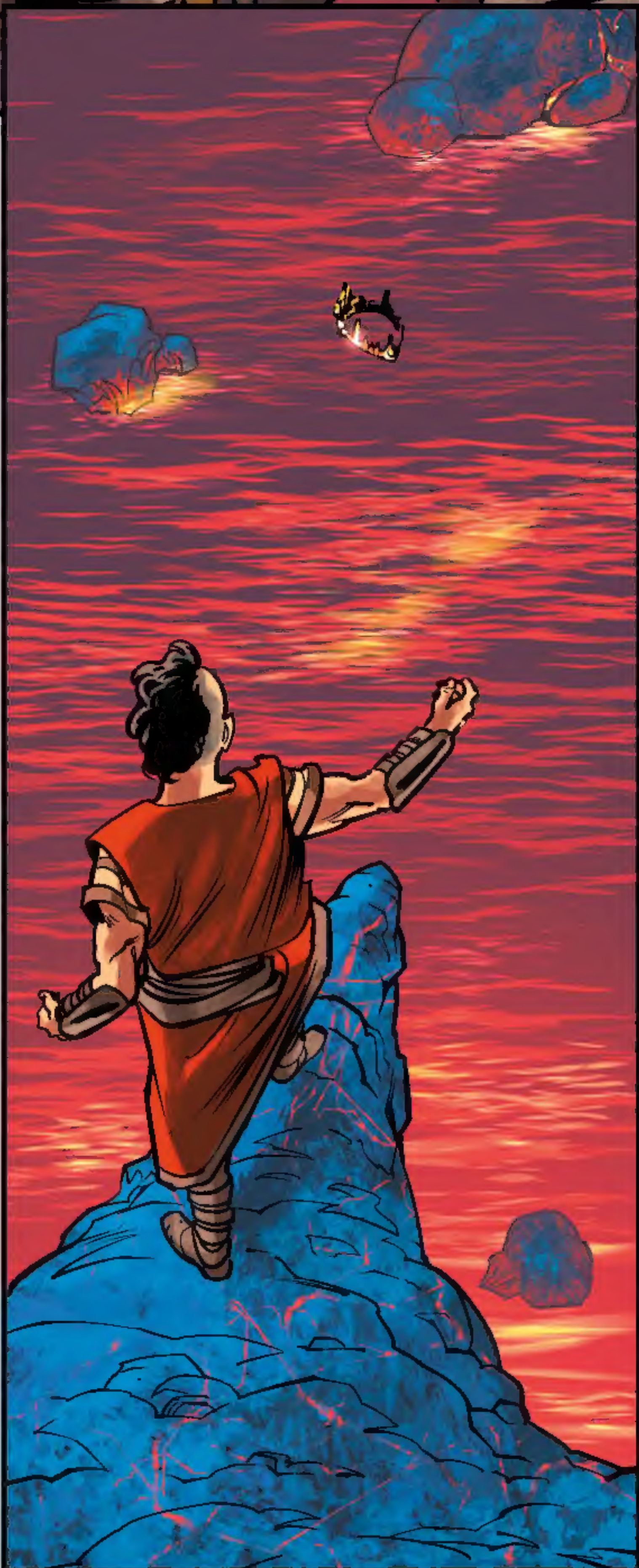
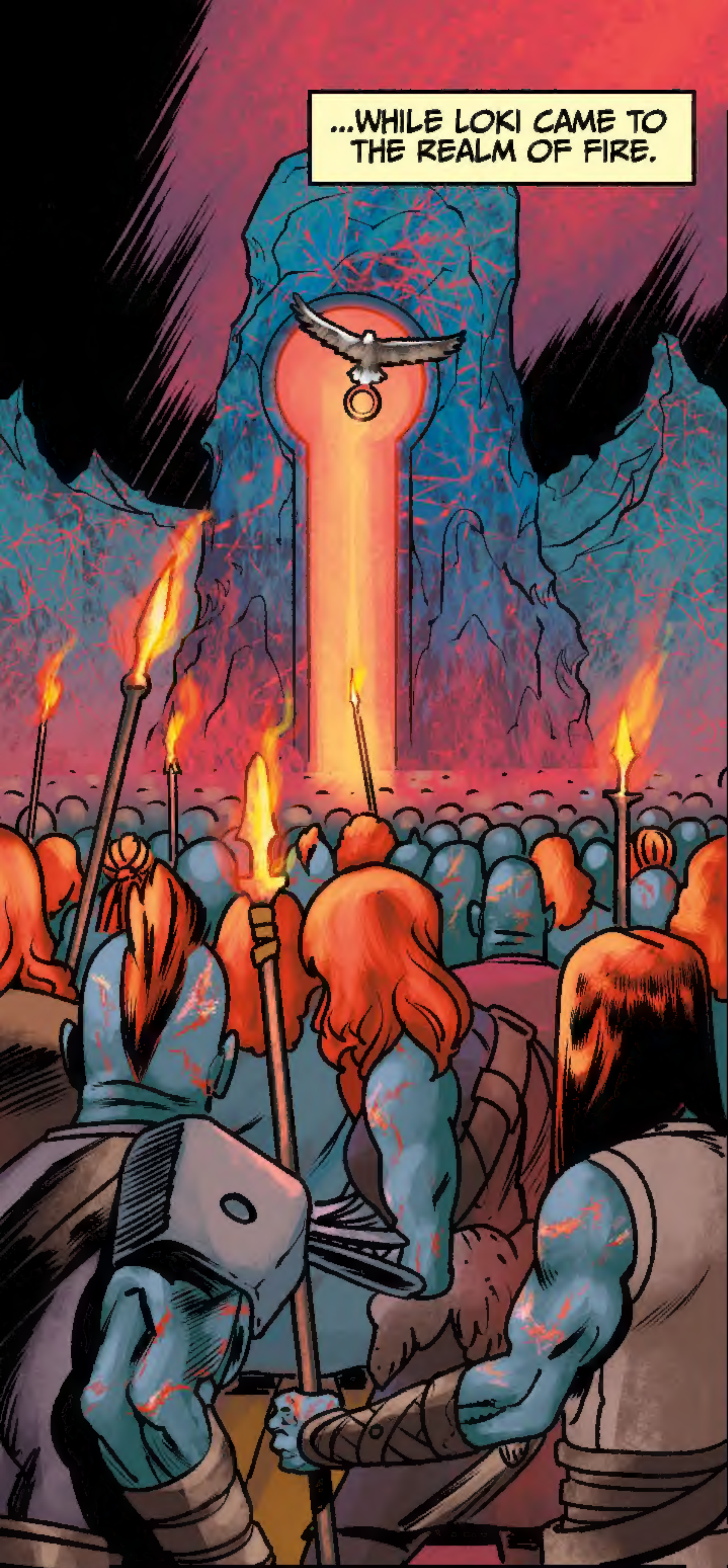
"I WILL NOT," BALDR AGREED. "THE DWARVES DID NOT ASK FOR WAR. SOMEONE MUST AID THEM."

"THEN BE BOLD, YOUNG AESIR, AND FIGHT WELL. FOR EYSA'S HEART MAY BE WON BY VALOR AS WELL AS BY BEAUTY."

AND BALDR GIRDED HIMSELF IN STEEL...



...WHILE LOKI CAME TO  
THE REALM OF FIRE.



HAHAHAHAHA!









SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...  
THIS MONSTER!"

